

HABITAT CONSERVATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

for the Washington County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

A work meeting of the Habitat Conservation Technical Committee (TC) was held in the conference room of the Washington County Administration Building, **October 21, 2016.**

Members present were:

Cameron Rognan, Chairman
John Kellam, Vice Chairman
Nathan Brown
Ann McLuckie
Kristen Comella

Washington County HCP
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR)
Snow Canyon State Park (SCSP)

Absent and Excused was:

Marshall Topham

Local Biologist

Also present were:

Lacey McIntyre
Kirk Willey
Lynn Chamberlain

Washington County HCP Recorder
Developer
HCP Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cameron Rognan noted a quorum existed and called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

3. DISCUSSION ITEM

a. Discussion and possible action on mitigation proposal for the proposed south access road in Diamond Valley

The committee met at Kirk Willey's property in Diamond Valley to evaluate a second mitigation proposal. He is proposing adding 4-6 acres of his property in addition to 16 acres in Leeds as mitigation for a proposed access road into a future development. Cameron began the discussion asking if there were any comments from the field trip.

Kristen mentioned the habitat in consideration for mitigation in Diamond Valley for the 4 acres is equivalent habitat quality to what would be lost due to the road. Cameron and John agreed the habitat quality is equivalent.

John felt the 4 proposed acres in Diamond Valley is equivalent to the habitat quality of what would be lost, however, his opinion of the Leeds habitat has not changed. It is isolated by Leeds and Quail Creek and is unoccupied. He feels it is a draw but not a clear net conservation benefit for the tortoise. Therefore his vote is no.

Nathan mentioned it is still not a clear net conservation benefit. He feels it is a wash as opposed to a clear net benefit. Nathan voted no.

Cameron and Kristen still vote yay to accept this mitigation package as mitigation for this project.

Ann still votes nay. The habitat areas are roughly equivalent but the Leeds area is not occupied tortoise habitat and she does not feel it is a clear net conservation benefit.

Mr. Willey had information about another property he may be able to acquire, but members of the committee agreed there must be a clear cut proposal in hand with property they then can plan to visit for assessment.

Nathan mentioned, due to the Reserve being a protected system, he would need to see 20 acres of great quality, occupied habitat that is defensible in order to agree it is a clear net conservation benefit. The HCAC will vote on this issue and could approve the mitigation offered, but the TC is split.

6. ADJOURN

MOTION by Nathan Brown to adjourn.

Seconded by Kristen Comella.

Discussion: None.

Vote was taken: All voted aye.

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Lacey McIntyre.